

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06 OES-06

PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SIL-01 LAB-04 CAB-02 CIEP-01 FAA-00 /084 W

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R 311110Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2520

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, ELAB, TZ, SF

SUBJECT: RUMORED TANZANIAN BOYCOTT OF SHIPS VISITING SOUTH AFRICA

REF: STATE 213336 (NOTAL)

1. DEP SEC GEN OF NATIONAL UNION OF TANGANYIKA WORKERS (NUTA) ON 17 AUG GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE CALLED ON TANGOV TO DENY LANDING AND BERTHING RIGHTS TO AIRCRAFT AND SHIPS THAT ENJOY SIMILAR RIGHTS IN SOUTH AFRICA. HE CLAIMED THAT "IN VERY NEAR FUTURE" TANZANIAN WORKERS WOULD STOP HANDLING GOODS "TO PLANES AND VESSELS THAT CALL AT SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS AND AIRPORTS." BY ABOVE ACTION, HE SAID NUTA WOULD BE IMPLEMENTING RESOLUTION PASSED BY AFRICA LABOR COMMISSION AND ENDORSED BY OAU SUMMIT. (COMENT -- OAU HAS LONG URGED MEMBERS TO BOYCOTT SHIPS VISITING SOUTH AFRICA.)

2. EDITORIAL 19 AUG IN TANGOV CONTROLLED SWAHILI DAILY PRAISED AFRICAN LABOR'S CALL TO BOYCOTT SHIPS AND PLANES VISITING SOUTH AFRICA AND URGED AFRICAN WORKER UNIONS TO INITIATE SUCH ACTIONS

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IN CASES WHERE THEIR GOVERNMENTS SHOW RELUCTANCE. THERE HAS

BEEN NO OFFICIAL TANGOV REACTION TO BOYCOTT PROPOSAL NOR ANY PUBLIC INDICATION TANGOV OR SURROGATE NUTA WILL PROCEED TO IMPLEMENT IT.

3. ACT. MANAGER OF STATE-OWNED NATIONAL SHIPPING AGENCIES CO. (NASACO), WHICH REPRESENTS ALL SHIPPING FIRMS IN TANZANIA, TOLD ECONOFF ON 30 AUG THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO TANGOV DECISION TO IMPLEMENT NUTA BOYCOTT PROPOSAL. HE NOTED THERE NOTHING NEW ABOUT PROPOSAL AND HAD NO IDEA IF AND WHEN TANGOV MIGHT MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION. HE DID SAY PROPOSAL IS BEING CONSIDERED -- NASACO HAD BEEN ASKED FOR PERTINENT SHIPPING TONNAGES AND PATTERNS. IT NASACO'S IMPRESSION THAT ANY "BOYCOTT" WOULD CONSIST OF ARRANGEMENTS TO LOAD SHIPS DESTINED TO AND FROM HERE SOLELY AND FULLY WITH EAST AFRICAN CARGO. ON A PARTICULAR JOURNEY, SHIP WOULD THEN NOT HAVE TO CALL AT SOUTH AFRICA. NASACO THOUGHT ANY BOYCOTT DECISION WOULD DEPEND ON PRACTICALITY AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, ON DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA DURING COMING WEEKS.

4. COMMENT: WHILE STOPPING ONCE WEEKLY SWISSAIR FLIGHT TO SOUTH AFRICA VIA DAR WOULD PRESENT NO SERIOUS PROBLEMS, TANGOV UNDOUBTEDLY RELUCTANT EMBARK ON SHIP BOYCOTT, WHICH WOULD ENTAIL CONSIDERABLE TRANSPORT DISLOCATIONS AND LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS. ZAMBIA AND COUNTRIES TO EAST OF TANZANIA WHO DEPEND ON PORT OF DAR WOULD PROBABLY COUNSEL AGAINST SUCH BOYCOTT. WE DO NOT KNOW HOW SERIOUSLY TANGOV CONSIDERING MATTER AT PRESENT TIME. WE RELUCTANT TO PROBE TOO DEEPLY FOR FEAR OF PRECIPITATING IMPLEMENTATION.
SPAIN

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